

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1068

By Finney L

A RESOLUTION to congratulate Tashekia Brown Abakwue upon her induction into the Gibson County Sports Hall of Fame.

WHEREAS, this General Assembly is pleased to specially honor and commend those citizens who, through unwavering dedication and unflagging commitment to excellence, have distinguished themselves as exceptional athletes and community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, Tashekia Brown Abakwue is one such individual, and she was fittingly inducted into the Gibson County Sports Hall of Fame at its fourteenth-annual Hall of Fame Banquet on April 16th of this year; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Abakwue was inducted in recognition of her prowess as a basketball and softball player for Bradford High School and a basketball player for Union University; and

WHEREAS, Tashekia Abakwue, during her attendance at Bradford High School, was a valued member of the Lady Red Devils basketball team. A dominating power forward, she led the team to four state tournament appearances and three consecutive state championship titles; and

WHEREAS, thrice bestowed with All-District, All-Region, and All-State honors, Ms. Abakwue was also deemed as the All-District Most Valuable Player in 1999, the same year she won All-State Honorable Mention honors; and

WHEREAS, during her high school career, which was spent under the tutelage of coach David Russell, she averaged sixteen points and nine rebounds per game; and

WHEREAS, Tashekia Abakwue was also a valued member of the Lady Red Devils softball team, and twice earned All-District honors; and

WHEREAS, following her graduation from Bradford High, Ms. Abakwue matriculated to Union University, where she continued her already impressive basketball career. As a Lady Bulldog, she amassed 1,215 points and helped the team to a record of 128 wins to only 20 losses; and

WHEREAS, during Tashekia Abakwue's years at Union University, which were played under the leadership and guidance of coach Mark Campbell, the team won four consecutive TranSouth Conference titles and played in one NAIA Final Four, two Elite Eights, and one Sweet Sixteen. Her contributions were recognized with her placement on the 2003 TranSouth All-Tournament Team; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Abakwue earned a Bachelor's of Social Work degree from Union University and currently is employed by Compass Coordination, Inc., where she renders sterling service as an Independent Support Coordinator for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities; and

WHEREAS, she is perhaps most appreciative of the love and support she shares with her husband, Chima Abakwue; and

WHEREAS, Tashekia Abakwue is a woman of true character and commitment who exemplifies dedication and leadership, and she is admired by her fellow Tennesseans for her tireless efforts to excel. She is always guided by solid principles and high standards, whether in the athletic arena or in the actions of her daily life, and it is fitting that she be recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby recognize and congratulate Tashekia Brown Abakwue upon her induction into the Gibson County Sports Hall of Fame, applauding this well-deserved honor and extending our best wishes for her every future success and happiness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.